

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

for the participation of 10 Higher Education experts from Southeast Europe/Western Balkans
in networking meeting

„The Role of Universities in Innovation and Education for Sustainable Development in Southeast Europe“

at 5th International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education
“Higher Education's Commitment to Sustainability: from Understanding to Action” organized by the
Global University Network for Innovation
www.guni-rmies.net/conference2010/

<u>Date:</u>	23th till 25rd of November 2010
<u>Venue:</u>	Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC), Barcelona
<u>Online application:</u>	http://www.investsciencesee.info/reg
<u>Deadline for Applications:</u>	3rd November 2010
<u>Selection of participants and notification:</u>	by 8th of November 2010

It is common place that **in building the knowledge base for sustainable development in any modern society, universities play a central role**. Less known is the role of universities regarding the **“innovation” edge of the knowledge triangle** research-innovation-education and the role of universities in **promoting the step from understanding to action**. With many internationalization/globalization processes and EU integration processes (like e.g. European Innovation Agenda, European Research and Higher Education Area etc.) going on in the Higher education sector of Southeast Europe simultaneously, there is a **need for capacity building, mutual learning and integration into existing networks of higher education experts** like e.g. the [Global University Network for Innovation \(GUNI\)](#) and [COPERNICUS Alliance, European Network on Higher Education for Sustainable Development](#).

Austrian Science and Research Liaison office Ljubljana www.aso.zsi.at is therefore partnering with **Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI)** and with prof. Friedrich Zimmermann of **Regional Center of Expertise in Education for Sustainable Development - Graz University** http://www.uni-graz.at/rce/index_archiv01.htm who is currently president of the COPERNICUS Alliance to facilitate **capacity building among higher education experts from Southeast Europe** and their **networking** with international peers by facilitating their participation at **5th International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education** “Higher Education's Commitment to Sustainability: from Understanding to Action” which will be held **23th till 25rd of November 2010** in Barcelona www.guni-rmies.net/conference2010/.

Programme

Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) joins the work on the **contribution of higher education to sustainability** currently being carried out by international agencies, special programmes of the United Nations, networks and institutions of higher education in the world with the conviction that the greatest challenge of higher education in next decades consists in **putting the knowledge at the service of social transformation**, a process which at present means moving toward sustainability.

The Conference offers a **collective work and active participation**. It will include **working sessions** to analyze how the world regions are advancing on the issue, using **examples** and **good practices**. It also



will be a **work space** where participants will **discuss and propose specific ways of action** to move forward application.

Further information about the programme see: www.guni-rmies.net/conference2010/

In addition to the main conference workshops and sessions Austrian Science and Research Liaison Office (ASO) Ljubljana (<http://www.aso.zsi.at>) and **Regional Center of Expertise in Education for Sustainable Development - Graz University** will organize in the afternoon of Thursday, 25 November a special **networking meeting of WBC/SEE participants** under the title „**The Role of Universities in Innovation and Education for Sustainable Development in Southeast Europe**“ in order to enhance cooperation and networking in SEE region (and Austria and Slovenia) and to present some leading European projects and initiatives in the field of S&T cooperation with the region (like e.g. the Western Balkan Countries INCO-NET enhanced www.wbc-inco.net (which focuses its work since autumn 2010 on integration of “Innovation” in the SEE-EU S&T policy dialogue, Steering Platform on Research for Western Balkan countries etc.).

Who can apply

Higher education experts, from both governmental and academic levels, from the following countries: **Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, FYR of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia.**

Language: English

Organisational and contact details:

Austrian Science and Research Liaison Office (ASO) Ljubljana **will cover the registration fee, travel expenses** (limited travel grant by economic class public transport up to 450 € per person) and **local accommodation for the 10 selected participants.**

We kindly ask you to fill in the **online application form** at:

<http://www.investsciencesee.info/reg> until **3rd of November 2010.**

The organisers will inform you about the outcome of the selection procedure by **8th of November 2010.**

For information regarding this call please contact: **Dr. Miroslav Polzer**, Director ASO Ljubljana (polzer@zsi.at) or **Mr. Gorazd Weiss** (weiss@zsi.at), tel. 00 386-1-568 41 68

This initiative is organized with financial support of:

- [Federal Ministry of Science and Research of Republic of Austria](#)
- [Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology of Republic of Slovenia](#)

Link to related past events/initiatives of ASO Ljubljana:

<http://www.investsciencesee.info/>